



NAVAIR China Lake

Fact Sheet

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NAVAIR China Lake is one of the eight Naval Air Systems Command sites that provide the highest standard in warfare technology through supremacy in naval aviation technologies. China Lake, home to the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, provides efficient deployment of new weapon systems through a unique combination of its collocated laboratories, ranges, weapons test squadrons and the Navy's Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX-9).

The site supports fleet training and tactics development, including major exercises on the Land Range, Superior Valley Tactical Training Range and Electronic Combat Range.

Mission

NAVAIR China Lake's mission is to support NAVAIR in providing the warfighter with Absolute Combat Power through technologies that deliver dominant combat effects and matchless capabilities by:

*Performing Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E), logistics, and in-service support for guided missiles, free-fall weapons, targets, support equipment, crew systems, and electronic warfare.

*Integrating weapons and avionics on tactical aircraft.

*Operating the Navy's western land and sea range test and evaluation complex.

*Developing and applying new technology to ensure battle space dominance.

China Lake is a leader in RDT&E of guided missiles, advanced weapons and weapon systems. This is proven through nearly 60 years of unparalleled products. At the same time, the Navy has only disturbed less than 5% of China Lake's 1.1 million acres.

Products and Services

For missiles and free-fall weapons, China Lake provides basic research, signal processing, advanced technology insertion, explosives and propellant development and engineering. China Lake provides weapons development expertise for acquisition, effectiveness analysis, laboratory and range testing, and weapon and component systems engineering. Examples of weapon systems developed are AGM-88 High-speed Antiradiation Missile (HARM); GBU-31 Joint Direct Attack Munition



(JDAM); AGM-154 Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW); AIM-9 Sidewinder; BGM-109 Tomahawk, and many others.

Aircraft Weapons and Battle Space Integration

China Lake provides integration of weapons and avionics onto tactical aircraft. Expertise includes systems integration, mission system design, software development and testing, full-up system testing, operator and maintainer handbooks, mission planning system development, fleet support, and foreign military sales. Tactical aircraft currently supported are F/A-18, AV-8B, AH-1W, AH-1Z, and EP-3E. With the current emphasis on network centric warfare, the concept of weapon and platform integration is being extended to battle space integration. NAVAIR is interconnecting virtual, real, and hardware-in-the-loop facilities across NAVAIR and at other services to develop and test network interoperability between systems.

Test and Evaluation and Training

China Lake has extensive land ranges to support developmental and operational test and evaluation and fleet training of missiles, free-fall weapons, electronic warfare systems and integrated warfare systems. Expertise includes ordnance environmental and safety testing, ordnance warhead testing, radar cross-

section measurement, high-speed track testing, parachute and ejection seat testing, propulsion system testing, and electronic warfare testing.

China Lake Facts

China Lake encompasses more than 1.1 million acres. It has 17,000 square miles of restrict airspace over the land. The R-2508 restricted airspace, which is managed by China Lake, Edwards Air Force Base and Fort Irwin, encompasses 12% of California's total airspace (please see China Lake's Airspace and Noise Fact Sheet).

There are few areas in the world that offer such wide variety of geographical features in close proximity – mountains, deserts, canyons, caves and forests. The air and land ranges at China Lake provide unmatched geographic conditions in which to develop and test weapon systems and explore tactics for desert and mountain environments.

More Information

For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Office at:

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